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REMARKS / ARGUMENTS

After the foregoing amendment, claims 1-9, as amended, are pending in the application. Applicant submits that no new matter has been added to the application by the amendment.

Objections to the Drawings

The Examiner has objected to the drawings under 37 CFR 1.83(a) as not showing every feature of the invention specified in the claims. Specifically, the Examiner noted that elements of claims 10 and 11 were not shown in the figures. Applicant submits that in view of the cancellation of claims 10 and 11, the objections to the drawings are now moot. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of the objections to the drawings.

Objection to the Abstract

The Examiner has objected to the Abstract for exceeding 150 words in length. Applicant has amended the Abstract to shorten its length to less than 150 words. Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and withdrawal of the objection to the Abstract.

Rejections Under 35 USC §112

The Examiner has rejected claims 8-9 under 35 USC §112, second paragraph, as being indefinite.

Applicant has amended claim 8 to properly recite "a demultiplexer" and "a multiplexer" to provide proper antecedent basis for the limitations in claim 8.

Applicant has amended claim 9 in accordance with the Examiner's helpful suggestions to properly define M and K as "integers equal to or greater than 2". Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of the rejection under 35 USC § 112 of claims 8-9.

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Allowable Subject Matter

Applicant notes with appreciation the Examiner's acknowledgement of the allowability of claims 1-7, as originally filed.

Conclusion

In so far as the Examiner's objections and rejections have been fully addressed, it is believed that the instant application, including claims 1-9, is in condition for allowance. Accordingly, reconsideration and issuance of a Notice of Allowability is earnestly solicited.

If there are any outstanding issues which the Examiner feels may be resolved by way of a telephone conference, the Examiner is cordially invited to contact the undersigned to resolve such issues.

Respectfully submitted,

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